

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 244556

FOLLOWING REPEAT ISLAMABAD 9504 SENT SECSTATE DATED OCT 4

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 9504

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR. PK

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: AERIAL SURVEY

REF: STATE 165934

1. SUMMARY. THE GOP HAS FORMALLY ACCEPTED THE PROPOSAL FOR MULTI-SPECTRAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON AREAS IN WHICH POPPY CULTIVATION IS FEASIBLE. GOP BECOMING MORE AWARE OF SHORT TIME FRAM FOR PLANNING. MISSION CONTINUES TO RECEIVE INFORMAL ASSURANCES THAT WE WILL RECEIVE TOPOGRAPHICAL MAPS REQUESTED BY SHELDON BUT MISSION HAS BEEN UNABLE TO PIN THE MAPS DOWN. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING ARE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS OF MFA NOTE RECEIVED SEPTEMBER 23. QUOTE: A. THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN WOULD LIKE TO AVAIL OF THE NEW TECHNIQUE KNOWN AS "MULTI-SPECTRAL PHOTOGRAPHY". IT HOPES THAT THE US
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GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO ASSIST IN THIS BY IMPARTING

THE NECESSARY TRAINING TO PAKISTANI PERSONNEL AND BY THE SUPPLY OF NECESSARY EQUIPMENT. THIS MINISTRY WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO HEAR FURTHER FROM THE US GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST. B. AS FOR THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY DR. DONALD SHELDON, WHO VISITED PAKISTAN IN MARCH 1974, ON THE ACREAGE OF POPPY CULTIVATION IN PAKISTAN, THIS IS BEING COMPILED BY THE PAKISTAN NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD. END QUOTE.

3. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH SAIC/DEA AND MISSION NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER, NEW CHAIRMAN PNCB, SAHIBZADA RAOOF ALI, FIRST INDICATED THAT HE WAS GOING TO SECURE TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS IN PERSON WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS, THEN LATER STATED HE UNAWARE OF PROBLEM BUT WOULD HAVE HIS STAFF REPORT TO HIM IMMEDIATELY AND MOVE TO SECURE ANYTHING USG REQUIRED FOR THE AERIAL SURVEY. DURING THE LATER VISIT, HE INSTRUCTED HIS DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR PLANNING, KHANZADU ABDUL WADUD, TO PREPARE THE ESTIMATE OF THE AREAS IN WHICH POPPY CULTIVATION MIGHT BE FEASIBLE AND DELIVER THAT MATERIAL TO THE EMBASSY WITHIN TEN DAYS.

4. MISSION NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER DISCUSSED WITH CHAIRMAN, PNCB THE DEA DRAFT PROPOSAL. AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL, NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER DID NOT GO INTO DETAILS ON PAGE SIX AND APPENDIX A. THE CHAIRMAN WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE PLANNING TO DATE AND AGREED COMPLETELY WITH THE PROPOSAL. HE WAS ANXIOUS TO RECEIVE FURTHER DETAILS SO THAT HE COULD DETERMINE WHAT MATERIEL AND STAFF SUPPORT THE GOP MIGHT PROVIDE. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE PAKISTAN AIR FORCE COULD AND WOULD PROVIDE AIRCRAFT AND PILOTS. HE BELIEVED THAT THE RECENT AERIAL SURVEY WITH UN SUPPORT PROVIDED ADEQUATE PAF EXPERIENCE IN THIS AREA.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: MISSION REQUIRES ASAP FURTHER SPECIFIC DETAILS ON THE TYPE OF EQUIPMENT AND STAFFING WHICH MIGHT BE PROVIDED BY THE GOP. IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL TO ALERT THE GOP AS TO US-BASED PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD BE BROUGHT INTO PAKISTAN. SPECIAL IMPORT PERMITS WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR ANY EQUIPMENT EVEN IF IT WERE TO BE RE-EXPORTED. SECURING THESE PERMITS IS CONFIDENTIAL

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TIME-CONSUMING. THE PNCB IS INTERESTED IN THE TRAINING ASPECTS OF PAK NATIONALS WORKING ALONG WITH US EXPERTS IN THIS EXERCISE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY DETAILS WE MIGHT PROVIDE THE GOP IN THIS REGARD.
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